JLA
37
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WORLD WAR III
PART 2 OF 5
MORRISON
PORTER
DELL
DIRECT SALES
THE INJUSTICE GANG STRIKES!

WHEN YOU DIE, THEY SAY, . . YOUR WHOLE LIFE FLASHES IN FRONT OF YOU.
FORTY SIX SECONDS AGO, THE JLA WATCHTOWER WAS DEVASTATED IN A SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS.
HELENA BERTINELLI, A.K.A. THE HUNTRESS, IS ALREADY RELIVING HER SEVENTEENTH YEAR.
AND HER EIGHTEENTH.
SHE'S TWENTY-ONE.
TWENTY-THREE.
THE MOON WHIPS OVERHEAD AND IT'S THE BIGGEST, MOST MONSTROUS THING SHE'S EVER SEEN, LIKE A TERRIBLE FRISBEE.
LIKE HER PAST CATCHING UP WITH HER ALL AT ONCE AND IT'S SUDDENLY THAT AWFUL MOMENT WHERE HELENA, THE HUNTRESS, REALIZES SHE'S OUT OF OXYGEN.
OUT OF TIME...
AND IT'S ALL GONE BY SO FAST...

...LIKE A SPEEDING BULLET.

WORLD WAR THREE

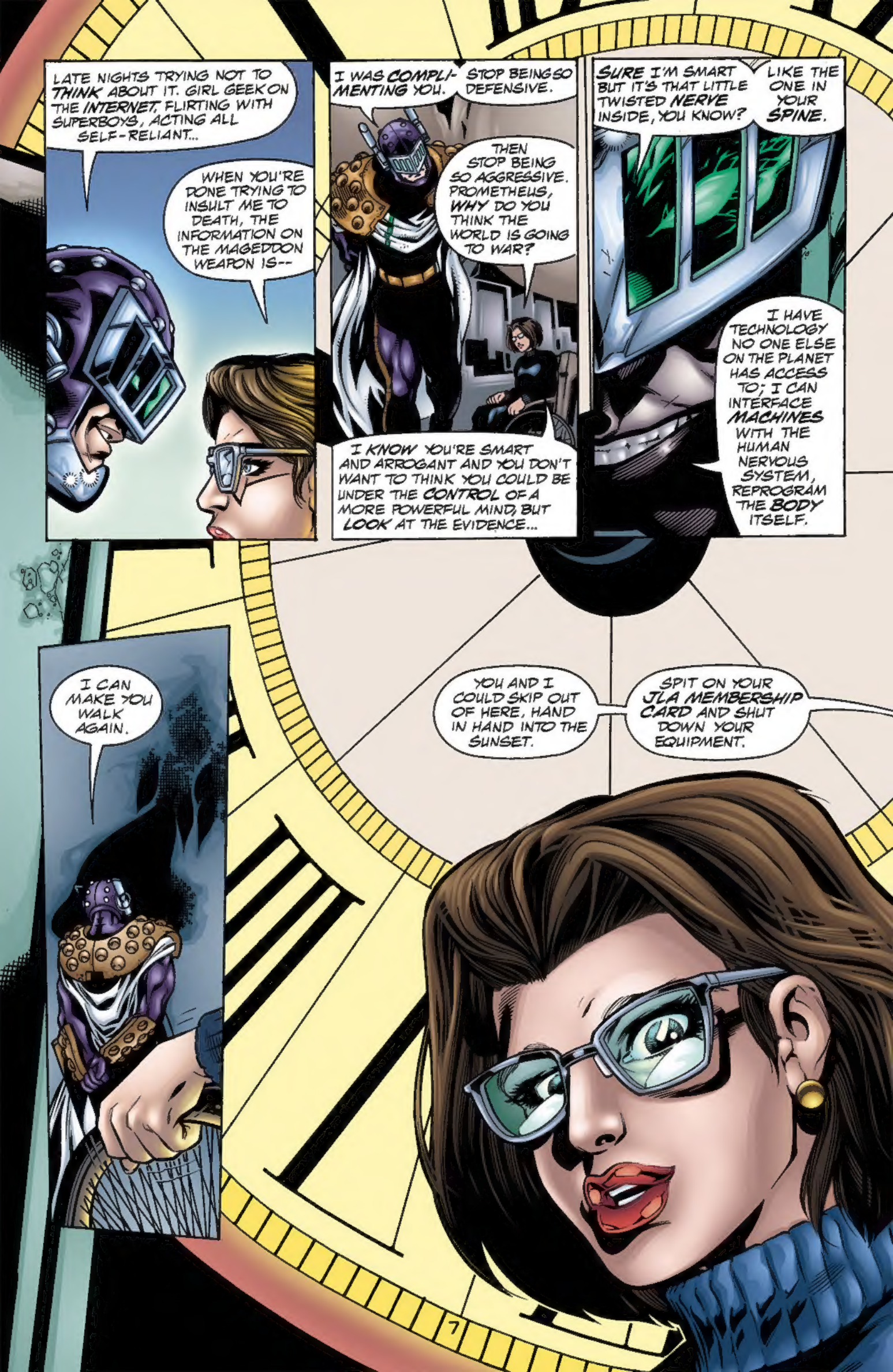
PART TWO

GRANT MORRISON	HOWARD PORTER	JOHN DELL	KEN LOPEZ	PAT GARRAHY	HEROIC AGE	TONY BEDARD	DAN RASPLER
WRITER	PENCILLER	INKER	LETTERER	COLORIST	SEPARATOR	ASSOCIATE EDITOR	EDITOR

EASY, HUNTRESS.
YOU CAN GATHER YOUR WITS HERE WITH PLASTIC MAN.
TAKE A FEW DEEP BREATHS.
SORRY IF I STARTLED YOU, BUT YOU NEEDED OXYGEN FAST.
LUTHOR'S RECRUITED A NEW INJUSTICE GANG! I NOTICED A GENETICALLY-ACCELERATED INSECT-HUMANOID. QUEEN BEE OFFSPRING...
...THE GENERAL... HE'S UNBEATABLE...
I'LL HANDLE THE GENERAL.
SUPERMAN.
MAMA MIA.
HUNTRESS! THIS IS HUNTRESS ON THE PORTABLE! IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?
THIS SZZTATION ISZZ OURSZZ.
SZZUMMONING BEGINS.
ZZZZVVVVVVEEE

LUTHOR--WE HAVE SZZECURED THE CENTRAL DOME AND MAIN COMMAND CZZENTER.
ARE YOU THERE, LUTHOR? ANSZZWER USZZ NOW!
YES...I'M HERE.
FORGIVE ME... ZAZZALA...MY THOUGHTS WERE ELSEWHERE... FOR A MOMENT IT SEEMED AS THOUGH SOMEONE...
NEVER MIND...
"OUR INTENTIONS SHOULD NOW BE OBVIOUS TO EVERYONE, I TRUST?"

GOTHAM CITY:
I HAVE NO MORALS.
I HAVE NO PITY, NO COMPASSION...
WELL, I SUPPOSE I HAVE. NOBODY'S ALL BAD, AFTER ALL.
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN; I JUST DON'T GET MUCH USE OUT OF 'EM.
SO...
IT WOULD BE EASY TO KILL YOU NOW.
THAT WOULD HURT THEM, WOULDN'T IT?
IT WOULDN'T BE EASY BUT, YEAH, YOU COULD PROBABLY KILL ME...
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW SOMETHING; YOUR MIND IS BEING INFLUENCED BY ALIEN TECHNOLOGY.
SOMETHING CALLED MAGEDDON IS APPROACHING THE EARTH; IT CAUSES PEOPLE TO FIGHT.
IT BRINGS WAR AND DESTRUCTION AND IF YOU DON'T LET US STOP IT, EVERYONE ON EARTH WILL DIE.
NICE IMPROVISATION.
THE WORLD'S GOING TO WAR BECAUSE OF US. BECAUSE OF THE INJUSTICE GANG.
I NOTICE YOU'RE WEARING HORN SHOES IN LAST YEAR'S STYLE. THE CHAIR'S A NEW LITTLE FRIEND, THEN?
WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU REALLY MISS WHEN YOU REALIZE IT'S FOR LIFE? DANCING? RUNNING TO THE DELI?
SEX?
I TRY NOT TO LIVE IN THE PAST.
DO YOU MISS YOUR BABY CARRIAGE?


LATE NIGHTS TRYING NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT. GIRL GEEK ON THE INTERNET, FLIRTING WITH SUPERBOYS, ACTING ALL SELF-RELIANT...
WHEN YOU'RE DONE TRYING TO INSULT ME TO DEATH, THE INFORMATION ON THE MAGEDDON WEAPON IS--
I WAS COMPLIMENTING YOU.
STOP BEING SO DEFENSIVE.
THEN STOP BEING SO AGGRESSIVE. PROMETHEUS, WHY DO YOU THINK THE WORLD IS GOING TO WAR?
I KNOW YOU'RE SMART AND ARROGANT AND YOU DON'T WANT TO THINK YOU COULD BE UNDER THE CONTROL OF A MORE POWERFUL MIND, BUT LOOK AT THE EVIDENCE...
SURE I'M SMART BUT IT'S THAT LITTLE TWISTED NERVE INSIDE, YOU KNOW?
LIKE THE ONE IN YOUR SPINE.
I HAVE TECHNOLOGY NO ONE ELSE ON THE PLANET HAS ACCESS TO; I CAN INTERFACE MACHINES WITH THE HUMAN NERVOUS SYSTEM, REPROGRAM THE BODY ITSELF.
I CAN MAKE YOU WALK AGAIN.
YOU AND I COULD SKIP OUT OF HERE, HAND IN HAND INTO THE SUNSET.
SPIT ON YOUR JLA MEMBERSHIP CARD AND SHUT DOWN YOUR EQUIPMENT.

NO. NO THANK YOU, PROMETHEUS.
AH, HELL...
WHY DO ALL MY DATES END LIKE THIS?
KRAK
UHH.

THE WATCHTOWER:
HE'S INVULNERABLE. SELF-REGENERATING. UNSTOPPABLE.
FULL POWER, STEEL!
"FULL POWER" IS OUR STRATEGY?
YOU'RE ALREADY BEATEN!
NOTHING YOU DO CAN--
FULL POWER IT IS.
KKAHCHORRF
UH!
STEEL! WATCH OUT!
HE'S STRONGER AND FASTER THAN--

I'VE GOT HIM, SUPERMAN!
HAMMER ON MAXIMUM!
UURRNNNNN
SKROMP
UIINN
=FTTUUH=
DON'T MAKE 'EM LIKE THEY USED TO.
UHH
THERE!
OUR PSYCHO-POLLEN HAS AN ANESZZTHETIC QUALITY IN ADDITION TO ITSZZ MIND CONTROL PROPERTIESZZ.
NO MORE PAIN
NO MORE INDIVIDUALITY.
OUR DRONE NOW. OUR SZZLAVE.
FOLLOW USZZ.

DON'T NEED A CLOCK TO TELL ME OUR TIMING'S PERFECT!
I'M INSIDE THE BRAIN OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE AND BELIEVE ME, IT'S NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT.
SOON AS I DOWN-LOAD EVERYTHING ONTO DISK I'LL BE UP THERE TO GRAB MY SPARE HELMET AND JOIN YOU. THIS ONE TOOK A HIT.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? ALL YOU NEEDED WAS THE RIGHT TEAM.
LUTHOR... AM I ENJOYING THIS TOO MUCH? I KEEP THINKING SOMETHING ELSE IS GETTING ITS KICKS HERE.
MAYBE IT'S NEURAL FUZZ. THAT RAGDOLL CRIP WRECKED MY DISK DRIVE.
LUTHOR? AM I TALKING TO THE VOID?
...I'M... HERE...
THEIR HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN GUTTED. COMMUNICATIONS AND TELEPORT LINK ARE SEVERED.
THE MEMBERSHIP IS SCATTERED AND DISORIENTED. NOW LET US TAX THEIR REMAINING ENERGIES TO BREAKING POINT.
ZAZZALA?
THE SZZIGNAL HAS BEEN TRANSZZMITTED.
A TECHNO-PHEROMONE, ATTRACTING OUR DRONE HORDESZZ FROM THEIR HOLDING POSITIONS AMONG YOUR ASZZTEROIDSZZ.

SZZWARMING HAS BEGUN.

...NO SZZZINGULAR MIND.. NO WILL BUT THAT OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESSZZ.

YOU..THREATEN OUR UNITY...

...OH MY GOD.

IF THIS *RADAR'S* RIGHT, PLASTIC MAN...

EARTH IS UNDER ATTACK FROM KILLER SPACE-BEES?

JUST WHEN YOU THINK THERE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE ANYTHING *FUNNY* ABOUT INTERSTELLAR WARFARE, HUH?

THERE ISN'T.

SAVE THE PLANET TIME, ALL-RIGHTY!

LEMME SLIP INTO THE WOODWORK AGAIN, SEE WHAT'S COOKING.

BRAPPP

POOT POOT

BELCH

POOT

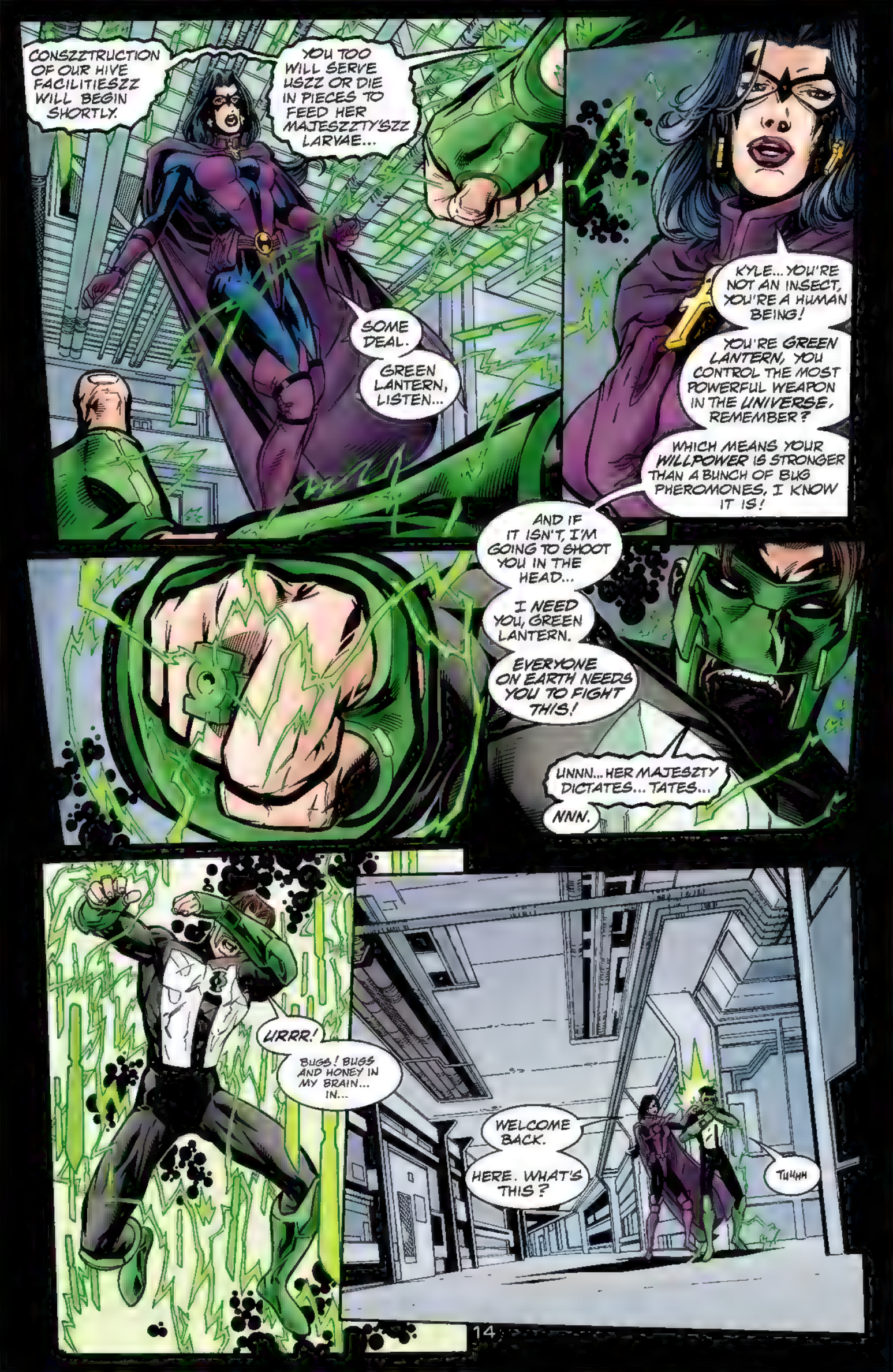
FIND *ZAURIEL*. I THINK THIS RED LIGHT HERE MEANS *LIFE SUPPORT* SYSTEMS ARE SHUTTING DOWN ALL OVER.

FIND ANYBODY!

OKAY...

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE NOW? AM I IN...

...GREEN LANTERN! THANK--


CONSZZTRUCTION OF OUR HIVE FACILITIESZZ WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.
YOU TOO WILL SERVE USZZ OR DIE IN PIECES TO FEED HER MAJESZZTY'SZZ LARVAE...
SOME DEAL.
GREEN LANTERN, LISTEN...
KYLE... YOU'RE NOT AN INSECT, YOU'RE A HUMAN BEING!
YOU'RE GREEN LANTERN, YOU CONTROL THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON IN THE UNIVERSE, REMEMBER?
WHICH MEANS YOUR WILLPOWER IS STRONGER THAN A BUNCH OF BUG PHEROMONES, I KNOW IT IS!
AND IF IT ISN'T, I'M GOING TO SHOOT YOU IN THE HEAD...
I NEED YOU, GREEN LANTERN.
EVERYONE ON EARTH NEEDS YOU TO FIGHT THIS!
UNNN... HER MAJESZTY DICTATES... TATES...
NNN.
URRR!
BUGS! BUGS AND HONEY IN MY BRAIN... IN...
WELCOME BACK.
HERE. WHAT'S THIS?
TU4HH

SHE WHACKED YOU WITH WHAT? HYPNO-POLLEN?
SUPERMAN SAID THE INJUSTICE GANG. YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE PEOPLE. I DON'T THINK ON THIS SCALE...
UHHH, MAN... HARDCORE BAD GUYS... GOTTA STOP 'EM... MAN...
WHERE'S BATMAN? WE'RE TOTALLY CUT OFF FROM EVERYBODY...

THE WATCHTOWER
THEY CAME RIGHT THROUGH THE KITCHENS.
MAPLE SYRUP; I WAS TRYING TO DROWN THAT WEIRD OLD TESTAMENT CEREAL ZAURIEL BRINGS IN, NEXT THING I KNOW THE BAD GUYS ARE DINING OUT ON MY BRAINS.
I THINK THEY CAME UP FROM HERE.
FIGURES. THIS SECTION STILL HAS LIFE SUPPORT.
LET ME CHECK IT OUT FOR DEATH-TRAPS. IF I STUMBLE INTO A NEST OF SUPERBEES YOU'LL HEAR THE BUZZING.
IN WHICH CZZITY SHALL WE INSZTALL OUR HIVE?
WHERE UPON THE CRAWLING MILLIONSZZ SHALL OUR DRONESZZ DUMP THEIR POLLEN-WARHEADSZZ AND MAKE SLAVESZZ TO CONSZZTRUCT MY EMPIRE?
...NEW YORK.
FINE CHOICE, ZAZZALA.
AH, YOUNG MAN. WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU AND YOUR RING.
JOIN US...

...GREEN LANTERN?
DID YOU SAY SOME...
UNN
WHUNCTH
HUNTRESS.
ACCORDING TO JLA FILES, YOU'RE THE WILD CARD, RIGHT? A PSYCHO BATMAN'S TRYING TO TAME AND MAKE FIT FOR...
PROMETHEUS...
TALK TO ME.

RRRRAAAAAAA
WHOOM
YOU JUDGED ME!
STUCK ME ON A DAMN ASTEROID WITHOUT COURT-MARTIAL!
UNNH!
GENERAL... YOU DON'T UNDERST...
JUSTICE?
DAMN YOUR JUSTICE!
KRAAKKOOM

EMBASSY PERSONNEL ARE LEAVING
DESTRUCTION OF THE CHINESE
FOLLOWING NATO'S BOMBING OF
DESCRIBED AS AN "ACT OF WAR" BY
POSSIBILITY OF ESCALATION
WAR CABINET
WAR
WAR
DEAR LORD, GENERAL.
RRRRUUAAARRRR
CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WHILE WE FIGHT POINTLESSLY, THE EARTH IS INCHING CLOSER TO GLOBAL CATASTROPHE...
LOOK...
LET IT ALL BURN!
BURN IT ALL DOWN, I'LL BE STANDING IN THE RUINS!
MINE IS THE FACE OF TOMORROW!

SORRY I TOOK SO LONG TO RESPOND, PLASTIC MAN.
I'D LIKE TO FORMALLY DECLARE MY RETURN TO ACTIVE DUTY, MY FRIENDS...
THIS IS J'ONN J'ONZZ ACTIVATING FULL TELEPATHIC LINK.
COUNTER-OFFENSIVE HAS BEGUN.

12 LIGHT-YEARS WEST:
...DEMONS OF DARKSEID...
THEY FOUGHT UNTIL THE LAST WEAPON MELTED IN THE LAST HAND, UNTIL THE LAST BONE WAS SHATTERED, THE LAST BODY TORN! IRRADIATED! BLASTED BEYOND RECOGNITION!
UNTIL THE FINAL, AGONIZED SCREAM OF EXTINCTION ITSELF. INDEED.
THESE WERE ANCIENT, PEACEFUL CIVILIZATIONS.
WE MUST RETURN TO EARTH, METRON! TELL THEM HOW CLOSE IT IS!
IN GREAT HERA'S NAME, HOW DO WE PREPARE? HOW DO WE FIGHT THAT?
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
PING
THE WARBRINGER APPROACHES...AND I--THE MOST BESTIAL, MOST MARTIAL OF THE NEW GODS--I SENSE ITS PRIMORDIAL WRATH LIKE A THUNDER IN MY BEING! THIS IS A MENACE FROM BEYOND THE SOURCE!
MOTHER BOX STRUGGLES TO CONTAIN MY RAGE FOR COSMIC DESTRUCTION.
"NOW THERE IS NO DOUBT.
"BEHOLD MAGEDDON."

THE WATCHTOWER:
I CAN SEE FIFTEEN WAYS TO KILL YOU FROM THIS POSITION.
THAT'S HOW VULNERABLE YOU ARE, PROMETHEUS.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU.
I'M HERE TO BRING YOU TO JUSTICE.
HIH.
I BEAT YOU SENSELESS LAST TIME, JUST TO SHOW YOU I COULD.
AND NOW, I'M GOING TO HAMSTRING YOU, LOBOTOMIZE YOU WITH AN ICEPICK AND LEAVE YOU DROOLING FOR THE OTHERS TO FIND.
LET'S GO, BATMAN...
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

" [A] comic legend."
– ROLLING STONE

GRANT MORRISON

"[Grant Morrison is] comics's high shaman."
– WASHINGTON POST

"[Grant Morrison] is probably my favorite writer. That guy has more ideas in his pinky than most people do in a lifetime."
– GERARD WAY
from MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE

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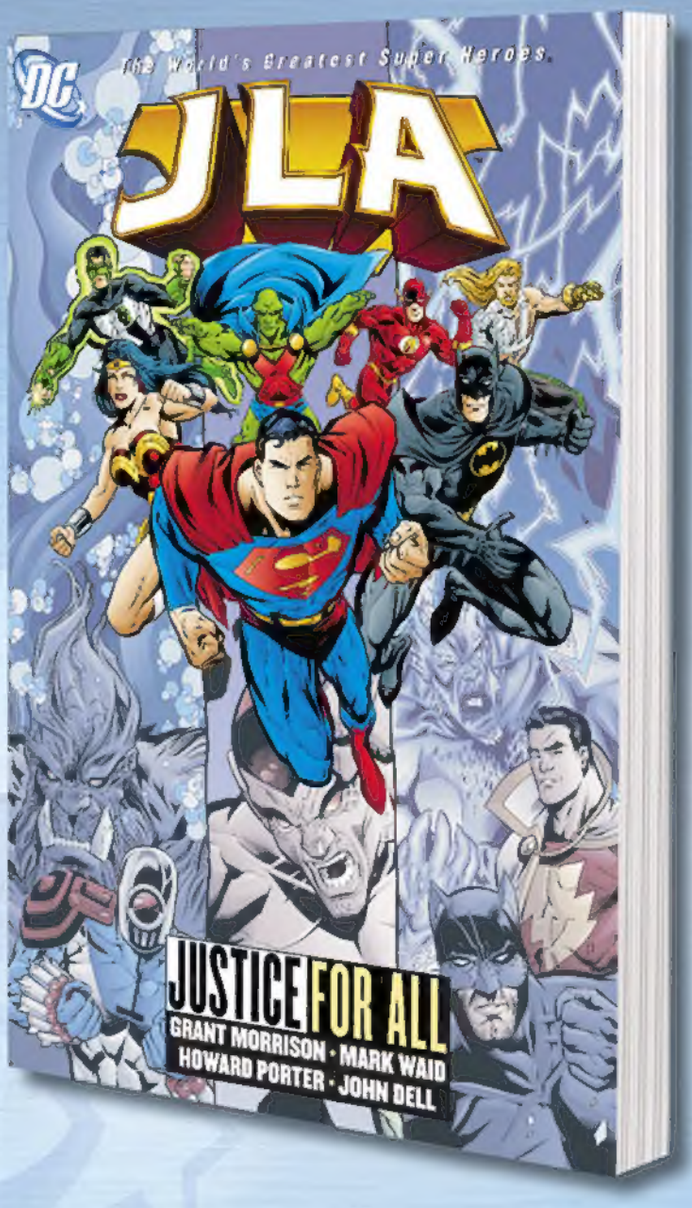

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